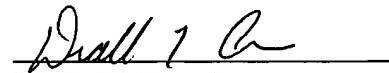


**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**U. S. Application No. 10/069,588**

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: August 25, 2004